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Heinz Fellow
2001-2002**

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Heinz Fellowship
Final Report

**University of Pittsburgh
UCIS-University Center for International Studies
Dr. Wolfgang F. Schlor
Program supervisor**

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Dr. Wolfgang Schlor,

INTRODUCTION

" The H. J. company Foundation and the University of Pittsburgh are pleased to announce the H.J. Heinz company Foundation Fellowship program. The program begins August 1, 2001 and ends July 31, 2002. The fellowship provides for one year of practical, professional, and **non-degree** educational experience through the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. For this round, one Heinz Fellowship will be granted to an individual **from Mozambique** who demonstrates potential as a future leader in government, business, or other professions. The goal is to improve, early in a career, the fellow's capacity to contribute to the development of their country and to enhance their understanding of the United States. This is accomplished through a year of auditing selected courses and participating in practical professional activities while based in Pittsburgh. Courses taken as part of the Heinz Fellowship do not earn credit towards an academic degree".

When I received the information from **UCIS** of my appointment as 2001-2002 Heinz fellow, I have identified and prioritized my needs to benefit from this one in a lifetime opportunity and set up the goal and activities in this regard.

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Goals:

Acquire practical information and tools/techniques that can be applied in the context of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). This information and these tools/techniques should relate especially to conducting **community development and HIV/AIDS**-related services in the context of an NGO.

Though the classes taken as part of Heinz fellowship do not earn credit towards an academic degree, they should also provide background that would foster continuation of my formal education when returning to Mozambique.

ACTIVITIES

1. Take two classes each semester that are practical and applicable to the Situation in Mozambique (rather than classes that are more "conceptual" Or academic in nature).
2. Participate in seminars, conferences, and other activities that provide Information and practical tools in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention and Community Development.
3. Meet with people in Pittsburgh and other parts of Pennsylvania (and Other jurisdictions if opportunities arise) to learn information and tools They use to carry out programming in HIV prevention and HIV/AIDS Care and services.

Products or outputs

1. Documentation (University transcript or other documentation) of four Completed classes.
2. Draft of a written proposal for attracting funds for HIV/AIDS related Programming when returning to Mozambique.
3. Journal" of contacts with professionals in the US (documenting names

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and contact information, as well as description of meetings with these individuals).

4. On going exchange (mostly through e-mail and letters, but also by telephone and possible exchange visits) with selected contacts/resources in the U.S.

To accomplish the above mentioned Goals/activities, the following have been carried out:

- ◆ In fall 2001, I followed two courses-**Planning and Designing Development Projects and Fundraising**.
- ◆ In spring I followed two courses-**Planning and Designing capacity building projects** and an independent course, **HIV prevention programs**, in the Public Health. This course was organized by my mentor, Dr. John Encandela with the collaboration of two other faculty members.
- ◆ Attended two seminars at the University organized by UCIS (Center for Latin America) A presentation, by a graduate student that had been making a research in **the trade relation** (Bananas) between U.S. and Latin American countries and **Politics Democratics** in Latin America. (September 4, 2001-2k56 posvar Hall).
- ◆ Attended a presentation (Public Health) by Friedman, MPA, MSW and John Encandela, PH.D; the topic was "**Understanding risk behaviors, barriers, and HIV prevention needs of hard-to-reach men who have sex with men and injection drug users: Data from needs assessment.**" (November 16, 2001-Crabtree Hall, room A-216).

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- ◆ Attended a presentation (Public Health) by a professor at Howard University on HIV situation in West Africa and evaluation methods.
- ◆ Had a meeting with Joane Csete, director of HIV/AIDS and Human Rights Program at Human Rights Watch in New York. Her interest was HIV/AIDS situation in Mozambique in the context of Human Rights.
- ◆ Attended Pennsylvania **HIV prevention community planning committees meeting** that took place in Harrisburg in January 15/16, 2001 as an observer. The aim of this meeting was to introduce the new elected members to the rest of the committees, give them a brief feed back of what the committees have accomplished, familiarize the new members with the committees' work methodology and expectation and finally election of the committees' chairs and co-chairs.
- ◆ Attended community **planning leadership summit for HIV prevention** in Chicago. (March 6-9, 2002). I attended three sessions-**Youth involvement in Community planning activities-Prevention for Positive Coordination, Project Evaluation and Mobilizing & Linking Network of Services and Decisions.**

"The US Department of Health and CDC (Center for Disease Control) have provided to the States a fund to develop a HIV/AIDS prevention Plan. One of the guideline from the Health Department and CDC is that for the

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elaboration of the Plan, three principles must be taken into account by the States: Inclusion, Representation and Parity. By Inclusion it is meant that all populations and groups are present; by Representation it is meant that all those sitting at the tables actually reflect the communities values, norms and behaviors and by parity it is meant that every member has an equal voice in voting and other decision making activities.

In each State various committees (also denominated CPG-Community Planning Groups), according to the length and population density are formed respecting the above mentioned principles. The committees are rotative. Each year some members have to vacate and new ones take the place. After five years of the work of the CPGs, the Department of Health and CDC will elaborate a comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention Project that reflects the infected and affected people of the country.

¹The above mentioned **Community Planning Leadership summit for HIV Prevention** is aimed at enhancing/creating skills/capacities to the committees' members to undertake properly the role they have been elected for.

Because HIV/AIDS has not waited for the comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention Project that the Health Department and Center for Disease Control will elaborate the States have been implementing the projects that the committees have planned".

During these conferences/presentations/summits/seminars, I have been in touch with people with whom I change Experiences in **community and HIV related issues** and have kept a journal of contacts with these professionals from Pittsburgh, other parts of Pennsylvania and other jurisdiction.

¹ The Community Planning Leadership Summit for HIV Prevention is held every year in different States

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Additional Information

As mentioned in the introduction, the other aim of the Heinz Fellowship Program is to enhance the fellow's understanding of the United States of America through, for example, community outreach activities in Pittsburgh. In that context in March 4, I participated in Heritage Day, in Ellis School teaching high school students. The topics of the program included Portuguese lessons, geographical location and the Political/Economical situation as well as diverse cultural aspects of Mozambique in particular and Africa in general.

I have also participated in many cultural events as a musical concert in Carnegie music Hall (AMERICAN STRING QUARTET), Salsa dance (Brazilian dance) in downtown, a concert by "NEGO GATO CAPOEIRA" group in Bellefield Hall and I also participated in art exhibition festivals in Shadyside (August 12, 2001) and very recently (June) in downtown (Three rivers art festival). In addition in July 4 I participated in the celebrations of the U.S. Independence in downtown. (Orchestra and Fireworks).

In summer I participated in an internship in a Liberian Organization based in Pittsburgh and amongst other things I could apply some tools/techniques which I learnt in the classes (grant proposal, special event, Fundraising plan...). So far I have also been involved in another internship; it's a private company belonging to a Liberian-American and I am working in the field of Human Resource.

Further more I and another Mozambican who has been living in Washington now for three years are working on setting up an NGO. The mission of this organization will be to "promote Solidarity to the Flood affected victims in Mozambique." This will be accomplished by a variety of methods: Collection of Second hand clothes, Financial support...

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Appreciation of Heinz fellowship program

My appointment as 2001-2002 Heinz fellow, has been, indeed extremely important. The classes I have audited, the conferences/lectures/community outreach activities I have attended have provided me with solid insights of U.S. I am now in possession of the tools and techniques that will allow me to perform effectively as a project manager and thus help my country towards Development path.

Allow me to show my appreciation to UCIS for conducting this kind of program; it really has "improved early in a career my capacity to contribute to the development of my country and to enhance my understanding of the United states" which is the goal of the program. I also appreciate the independence I have had in selecting the courses I wanted to audit and the internship afterwards.

The other aspect which I have found interesting during the course of this program is the fact that the other Heinz fellow (Maria Cecilia Beltrao Raposo) is also from a Portuguese speaking country, Brazil. In addition both countries are affiliated in the same confederation (CPLP- the community of the Portuguese speaking countries) and have shared many cultural aspects that we have even applied in the ²class project.

Coming to America, the most powerful country of the world, I knew it would be great but I had not imagined I should meet such interesting and helpful people! Speaking particularly of Pittsburgh, I have met

² Coincidentally Cecilia also audited some classes as I did-Planning and designing development projects, Planning and designing Capacity building Projects and Fundraising.

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People of different background, race, religion... and it is wonderful how they entertain, this is the real democracy, freedom.

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